Sentence Diagramming

For this activity, you will need to sit at one of the computers here in the Writing and Reading Center.

1. Go to a computer and find the “Writing Applications” icon on the desktop. If you need help locating the icon, please call a lab aide to help you. When you have located the icon, double-click on it.
3. The page you see next will look like the diagram below. Click on “Index.”

4. From this menu, scroll down and choose the lesson entitled “Diagramming Sentences.”
5. Read this lesson and view the PowerPoint presentation, taking notes as you feel the need. Be sure to click on the “enter” button at the bottom of the page to view diagrams for different diagram configurations.
6. Answer the following questions about the reading:
   1) Why learn how to diagram sentences?
   2) What are a subject and a predicate (hint: the answer to this question can be found elsewhere on Darling’s Guide to Grammar)?
   3) Fill in the types of words that go in each part of the diagram below. The first word has been filled in for you:

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Subject _______ _______ _______
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4) What is a gerund? What is an infinitive? (Hint: the answer to these questions can be found elsewhere in Darling’s Guide to Grammar)

7. When you have finished answering the questions, STOP. If you have any questions or had trouble answering any of the questions, take time to visit an instructor or a tutor and get help before continuing.

Once you are ready to continue, go on to #8.

8. On a separate sheet, diagram the following ten sentences:
   1) Ed, Phil, and Jack fought.
   2) The meeting adjourned.
   3) The taller boy won.
   4) Jane answered the question correctly.
   5) The man with the brown sweater slipped.
   6) The cat sat on the mat.
   7) Two students were absent.
   8) My decision is final.
   9) Were Lisa and Amy cheerleaders?
   10) Coffee is my favorite drink.

9. Review your answers with an instructor or tutor in the WRC. Have that person sign and date this sheet.

   ___________________________________________   __________
   Instructor/Tutor signature                       Date

10. Return this completed, signed sheet to your instructor.